

Western Regional News

Stores' spirits stay elevated

To celebrate the opening of the stockcar racing season, 4332 staffers, Colorado Springs, CO had a rally of their own. Their "Greatest Race Ever" featured the first tractor competition in the area. Using toy tractors, racers endeavored to negotiate a tricky course to cross the finish line.

Several malfunctions occurred. Some over-excited drivers had to be carried off in the Squad 4332 rescue vehicle.

The race, in spite of various mishaps, did yield a female champ, Judy Naugh, and male champ, Dana Nash. Ceremonies concluded with everyone dashing off to prepare for next year's training camp. Tractors may have crashed, but spirits keep soaring.



Esther Headley

Esther Headley is a great-grandmother. Not so unusual, you may think.

But if you get a glance at the hoisery manager at store 3085, Bountiful, UT, you would be a doubting Thomas. For Esther Headley is only 55 years old.

Esther was a mother at the age of 16. Her oldest daughter, Dorothy DeCost-Bush followed in her mom's footsteps and gave her a grand-daughter when Esther was but 32. Esther's grandson Lee DeCost is the father of the great-grandchild. Between Dorothy and Esther's son Nelson, there are eight grandchildren.

Esther doesn't plan to rest on her laurels as the matriarch of the growing family. She plans to keep on working at the Bountiful store. As she comments, "Some of the dumbest people I know are housewives who have no other interest than their children's schoolwork or what their husbands do."



Store 4309, Monrovia, CA congratulates Pam Nakano, daughter of Carol Nakano, infants manager, who was crowned queen of the Monrovia Day Festival and rode a flower-decked float leading a parade that day.

Her imagination refreshes 4146

June Swank, personnel manager at K mart 4146, Everett, WA is doing her part to inspire patriotism among staffers. She spent Thomas Jefferson's birthday, April 13, at a local post office. Why? So that everyone at the store could have a real collector's item: a brand new uncirculated \$2 bill with a postage stamp cancelled on the date of issue.

June got 115 bills from the bank and included one in each staffer's pay envelope that week. She chose two sheets of the new Bicentennial state stamps, which contained stamps for each state of the union.

Myrna Johnson, born in Alaska, was especially pleased with hers. She received a stamp from her home state.

The idea to rekindle the American spirit has been utilized by Swank on previous pay periods. She has also included the new Bicentennial quarters and 50¢ pieces.

Sandy Roberg was one of the store's most enthusiastic participants. The avid coin collector currently owns such hard-to-find items as barberhead dimes and liberty nickels and quarters. She has acquired several blue seal silver certificates and Federal notes as well.

The response at 4146 has been strong. Some staffers have bought extra bills from people who didn't care to save them. Swank's project has made the energetic lady popular, and she truly enjoys the excitement demonstrated by her crew. She just wishes she had three times as many items to contribute to meet the demand.

Staffers' unity helps them overcome dollar dilemma

Every store has to cope with certain emergencies. Could anything be as bad as trying to start a day with a cash safe that won't open?

Staffers at 4205, El Paso, TX had to cope with this dilemma. With their manager out of town for a meeting, the clock showed 45 minutes till opening time. And the stubborn safe refused to budge.

Paul Dyba and Mike Blumenkranz sped to their nearby banks and withdrew personal money to help out. The store opened on time with two checkout registers open for business.

Meanwhile, Assistant Dave Marr called in Mosler Safe experts. A

neighboring K mart came to 4205's aid with a ready cash loan. More registers opened as money was taken in from customers.

But the safe experts just couldn't get it open. They ordered special drills and Marr crossed his fingers. To top off the tension, the auditor arrived to do his store check.

Eventually, Manager Floyd Cole arrived with his merchandise manager and Marr gratefully handed over the responsibility. Special drills and a jack hammer came.

After 36 futile hours, the safe was finally open. Everyone shared a renewed appreciation of teamwork . . . and respect for the importance of the cash cage.

4291 singer loves America



Ron Cameron

Ron Cameron wasn't born in America. But that makes no difference to staffers at 4291, who gave a "Welcome" party to him when he became a United States Citizen.

Born in Australia and a renowned entertainer, Cameron came to the U.S. in 1965 after winning a world tour in a singing contest. He stopped in Los Angeles on the last leg of the tour and fell in love with the country.

He began working with K mart in March of 1973 and became appliance manager of the Simi Valley store in early 1974.

The excitement of becoming a citizen was heightened for Cameron this spring. His parents and sister, who is also an entertainer, arrived for a six month stay in Simi Valley.



Being filmed for local television are, l to r, Marty McGuire, talk show hostess, Betty Cline, publicity chairwoman for the American Business Women's Association, and Mr. Hawkins, ladies apparel at 4102, Bakersfield, CA. Store 4102 joined 4364, also in Bakersfield, to produce a fashion show of over 60 outfits from ladies wear, along with selections from the men's, boys' and infants' departments. Besides given a 15-minute spot on television, the show made local newspapers.